



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 9
12 December 2018

Kia ora St Mark's family,

Sitting to write this newsletter brings a natural reflection point on a year that has first and foremost been a privilege to share with your child and family. Teaching is a heart profession that interfaces with those closest to your heart - your children. That interface is reliant on relationship and communication. Together they invariably mean mistakes will be made, but more often be offset by incredible joy.

Year 8 Students and their families

As we say goodbye to a memorable group of students we also say goodbye to a significant body of knowledge, love, care and support for St Mark's school in the parents and their families. Our recent Year 8 dinner was a time to celebrate their journey and be humbled by the work that has gone before to ensure the work of today. Each and everyone of these people are Alumni and leave with our unequivocal love and prayers for the future.

Parents' Association

To the Parents' Association I want to extend a very public thank you and appreciation for their incredible efforts over this year. The fundraising, the support for significant social and school events, the Fair - too many to list here! In my opinion this group is without peer in terms of parents associations. On behalf of staff I want to extend sincere thanks for all you do!

Boards of our School

We are blessed to have two boards in our school who work in collaboration to govern our school in complementary ways for the best outcomes for our families. I am personally thankful for all their support and expertise in relation to governance. Our recent ERO report was a resounding endorsement of both the governance and operational efforts of the school. There is always work to do but staff feel encouraged by the work that is being done in partnerships.

Rev'd Canon Ben Truman

We thank Rev'd Ben for his inspirational ministry in our school, wish him a very happy Christmas and much rejoicing as he and Johannah, and extended whānau welcome the new life in their family in the new year.

Whānau

On behalf of staff, I want to personally thank our wonderful St Mark's school family for all you have done this year. If you have supported us - in any way large or small - coaching sports teams, coaching hockey, making coffee, being a parent helper, going on camp, gardening, parent transport, wearable arts support, home learning support, attendance at church services, car-pooling - there is a list that is never exhaustive! We thank you and feel blessed by your unwavering support.

You are all wished peace this Christmas time and opportunities for family memories that leave indelible imprints on our hearts. Jesus came into this world as one of us - the world's most precious gift. Peace on Earth.

"In Christ somehow, there is neither bound nor free. We are all one in Jesus Christ" Martin Luther King Junior - last Christmas sermon.

We look forward to welcoming those returning and starting in 2019, and remember those leaving with much love and fondness.

Blessings everyone
Averil



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

School Notices

Upcoming Events

12 Dec	Year-8 Jellie Park Day
13 Dec	Prizegiving - 7.00pm Year-8 Supa Karts Trip
14 Dec	End of Year Service - 11.45am

Church Certificates

Raupo	Indigo J/Violet J
Inaka	
Kereru	Olivia H
Ti Kouka	Max B
Kamana	Abigail W
ToeToe	Tessa C
Kotuku	Asay U
Paua	Hannah P
Mako	Solomon S
Wheke	
Toroa	Matthew C

Student Achievement

Congratulations to Pippa F-D who recently passed her BBO Pre-primary ballet exam with Distinction.

Sports Achievement

We had a great game against Pioneer Pumas last night. We won 26 - 6. Player of the Day was Monty for defence.

We then went through to the finals. This is a huge achievement - so proud of this team for getting into finals. We played Halswell Rams and lost 25 - 13. Player of the Day was Joe for guarding and passing.

“St Mark’s Lions - Meg, Miriama, Tommy, Joe, Dustin, Monty and Toby - played in the finals of the Year 4 Miniball competition. A great effort against a competitive team, St Mark’s put up a good fight and showed great sportsmanship. We are proud of you! Although not a win, they should be so happy with their achievement. Congratulations St Mark’s Lions “



Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be open during the school holidays for purchasing uniform. The dates are:

Monday 14 January: 10.00am-11.30am
Friday 25 January: 2.00pm - 3.00pm

Find the Elf



2019 School Term Dates and Holidays

Monday 28 January - Friday 12 April
Monday 29 April - Friday 5 July
Monday 22 July - Friday 27 September
Monday 14 October - Friday 13 December

PA News for 2018

Our role as fundraisers and social coordinators in the school has been a busy one in 2018. As we head into 2019 the PA is ready to assist Averil in her wish for your children to help have some of the extras that make our school so special.

We started the year with some new faces and plenty of old ones on the PA. We came together to create; The welcome back BBQ in February, Ethel and Bethel Bingo night, The Fair, Two Discos, Grandparents Day, New Families Night, Year 8 Leavers Dinner, Tea towel Fundraiser, Staff Morning Tea shout, Entertainment books, Wearable arts supper, Coffee cart, bowling and running the Uniform shop as well!

Out of the usual contributions this year we have purchased a staff set of winter Jackets and some wireless microphones. We are very happy to be looking forward to the possible arrival of some minivans in the near future. The funding of which will be possible through the work of the current and past PAs persistent fundraising

The team atmosphere required to achieve these events has meant we have developed some strong friendships, raised considerable funds for the school and had quite a few fun moments throughout the year. Sometimes I feel there is certainly a lot/too much of information shared at PA functions!

The end of 2018 is also a sad moment for us as we farewell the Cuthbert's. Sarah and Hamish have been an integral part of the school for many years now. Hamish has served on the Board. Sarah has served the PA for many years and has been secretary for the last 2 as well as managing the coffee cart. She has been a steadying hand and constant source of goodwill and friendly banter. We couldn't have done it without her. We are going to miss you both Sarah and Hamish and wish you and your family all the best.

Our AGM is on the 11th of February and we would love to see you there if you would like to join the PA.

From all on the PA I would like to wish you a safe and relaxing Christmas.

Susan Bain
PA President





*and Happy Holidays
from the Coffee Cart Team*



*Thank you to all our regular fluffy and coffee drinkers. We look forward to seeing you and new faces in 2019. Our last day will be Friday.
Please have a look at our IOU list and check your name isn't on it. We would really love to have this list clear.*

A very special thank you to all the Coffee Cart's wonderful volunteers.



An Update from the Board of Trustees Review Committee



WE NEED YOUR INPUT PLEASE

2018 Term 4 – Policy Reviews:

This term we are reviewing the following policies and invite your feedback as part of our three-year review cycle.

- Religious Instruction
- Improving Educational Outcomes for Māori Students

It is from these policies that the procedures are developed in relation to the way the school approaches these things operationally. For this reason, we want to encourage parents to become familiar with these policies and recommend any changes that might be required.

Feedback can be given anonymously if you choose

The cut off for feedback is the last day of Term 4 – **Friday 14th December 2018.**

If you would like to view and give feedback on the policy its as easy as 1,2,3!

1. Go to www.schooldocs.co.nz and click on search for your school. Pick St Marks School.
2. Enter the following user name and password
Username: stmarks
Password: saint
3. Find the policy that's up for review, read it, click on the red bubble in the top right hand corner of the policy and enter your feedback. (if there is no red option, pick the green speech bubble instead).

2018 Term 4 - Assurance:

In addition to reviewing policy, it's also the role of the Board to gain **ASSURANCE** that the operational policy and procedures are being operationalised in the school.

This term we will undertake assurance on a variety of areas including

<u>Curriculum</u>	<u>Employer Responsibility</u>	<u>Finance & Property Management</u>	<u>Health, Safety, and Welfare</u>	<u>Legislation and Administration</u>
None this term	-Appointment procedure -Appraisal of staff -Attestation - Provisionally Certified Teachers (PCTs) -Teacher Certification and Police Vetting	-SUE (Staff Expenditure and Usage)	-Evacuation Procedure/Emergency Kit -Risk Management	-Length of School Year



Christmas Services

@ St Anne's Church

(7 Wilsons Rd)

We would love to have you join with us as we celebrate the great gift of Jesus this Christmas.

Sunday 23rd

8am Communion Service
10am 9 Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve

5pm Children's Christmas *
10:30pm Candlelight Christmas Vigil **

Christmas Day

9am Communion Service

* Our Children's service is full of *costumes* and *carols*. You can come dressed as a character from the nativity story, otherwise we can provide the costumes. No knowledge of church is needed.

** The Vigil service includes 20min of carol singing before a communion service at 11:00. Come for one or both. We aim to finish at 12:15 – in plenty of time to catch Santa!



Rudolf Steiner School

Christmas Market

Sunday 16th Dec

9am–1pm

19 Ombersley Terrace

Arts, crafts, fun, games, food, carol singing,

Help decorate the Community Christmas Tree,

Kids can make their own Christmas Card

And much more!!

Winter Wonderland

ALL ADMISSIONS WILL BE DONATED IN FULL TO
 **cure kids**



SATURDAY 22 DECEMBER 10AM – 10PM

\$10 PER PERSON INCLUDING SKATE HIRE (IF REQUIRED)

495 BROUGHAM STREET, CHRISTCHURCH | 03 366 9183 | WWW.ALPINEICE.CO.NZ



Thinking BYOC for 2019?

We encourage students who will be in years 6-8 in 2009 to bring their own Chromebook to school. We recommend purchasing through our [BYOC Portal](#).

90% of our current year 6-7 students already have Chromebooks for 2019!

Second-Hand Chromebook Sale

Thursday 6 December **TOMORROW!**

2:30pm - 4:00pm

Ōmoho



At our information afternoon, there will be a noticeboard for families wishing to buy or sell used Chromebooks. We are keen to support this eco-friendly practice and to make e-learning as affordable as possible.



BYOD Made Easy

OUTCOMES THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Visit www.cyclone.co.nz/byod. Select your school name and you will be redirected to your schools specific portal login page. Enter the login name and password given to you from the school.

Why purchase through Cyclone?

- **Solutions to fit your school:** Avoid potential confusion on which device to buy -- your school's portal only features devices with specifications that fit the minimum recommendations of the school.
- **Education pricing:** Take advantage of Cyclone's special education pricing thanks to their high-level partnerships with vendors.
- **Quality warranty & insurance options:** Cyclone lists devices with a three-year warranty as part of their device bundles, plus excellent insurance options with super-low excess.
- **Easy Checkout:** Cyclone's checkout process makes it simple to add the items you want to your cart and then complete your order. A variety of payment options are available, including credit card and direct deposit. Shop online, anytime!

www.cyclone.co.nz/byod
Login: **stmarks**
Password: **stmarksbyod**



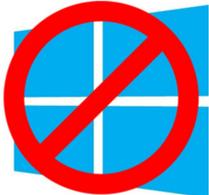
Which Chromebook?

Any Chromebook (device with the official Chrome logo) will meet our minimum system requirements. Beware of old Chromebooks that may look similar, but don't perform as well as the newer ones. Google demands high standards for hardware manufacturers to earn the Chrome logo, and these standards have increased over the years. A newer Chromebook is likely to be better. Touchscreen and tablet mode are lovely optional features, which are definitely worth considering.



Why not Apple or Microsoft?

Only Chromebooks can support a Chrome Education Licence, which offers the best safety, security, and learning environment for our students. Through a two-year trial and community consultation process, we have chosen Chromebooks as the best fit for our school.



We love our iPads in Mōkihi! Apple and Microsoft offer some great products, but we are a BYOC, not BYOD school.

Why do I need a Chrome Education Licence?



Learning

Chromebooks are for learning. A Chrome Education Licence provides the best online learning environment for our senior students. It means that the apps and sites work at home, exactly the way they work at school. We are able to customise the learning environment to meet students' needs.

Security

The Chrome Education Licence restricts sign in to users with an @saintmarks.school.nz account. Siblings may sign in with their school accounts to share the Chromebook at home. If a Chromebook is stolen, we can remotely disable it.

Safety

The Chrome Education Licence disables the ability to powerwash (return to factory settings). This prevents students from bypassing our safety and security measures. Students are unable to delete their browsing history and are responsible and accountable for how they use their Chromebooks.

Please be aware that while we do our best to keep our students safe online, no device is 100% safe.

We strongly encourage families to be actively involved in our students' e-learning.